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## **Russian Federation**

### **Food and Agricultural Import Regulations and Standards - Narrative**

## **FAIRS Country Report**

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**Report Highlights:**

This report is an overview of both general and commodity-specific requirements of Russian Federation government agencies for imported foodstuffs. Substantial sections of this report have been updated including: Sections I. Food Laws, II. Labeling Requirements, III. Packaging and Container Requirements, IV. Food Additive Regulations, V. Pesticides and Other Contaminants, VI. Other Regulations and Requirements and IX. Import Procedures.

**Executive Summary:**

The Office of Agricultural Affairs of the USDA/Foreign Agricultural Service in Moscow, Russia,

prepared this report for U.S. exporters of domestic food and agricultural products. While the USDA office in Moscow took every possible care in preparing this report, information provided may not be completely accurate either because policies have changed since its preparation, or because clear and consistent information about these policies was not available. OAA Moscow highly recommends that U.S. exporters verify the full set of import requirements with their foreign customers before any goods are shipped. They are normally the best equipped to research such matters with local authorities. FINAL IMPORT APPROVAL OF ANY PRODUCT IS SUBJECT TO THE IMPORTING COUNTRY'S RULES AND REGULATIONS AS INTERPRETED BY BORDER OFFICIALS AT THE TIME OF PRODUCT ENTRY.

This report is an overview of both general and commodity-specific requirements of Russian Federation government agencies for imported foodstuffs. The commodity sections of this report describe the latest changes in GOSTs and in other voluntary and mandatory branch norms. Most changes are intended to bring Russian norms closer to international standards. To this end, the Russian government adopted Resolution No. 159 on March 24, 2006, giving VPSS the authority to apply international standards in lieu of divergent Russian regulations when evaluating the safety of imported live animals and certain products of animal origin.

Despite Russia's ongoing preparation for WTO accession, agencies' control over imported foodstuffs remains complicated and bureaucratic. Barriers to trade depend on the type of product, customs clearance location, importer's status, and other non-transparent factors. Enacting new technical regulations that would replace non-WTO compliant national standards has been virtually suspended.

## **Section I. Food Laws: Introduction**

It is recommended that customs clearance be carried out by an agency located in the country where the customs clearance must be performed, or at least by a representative of this party *in situ*. Import permits are issued in the name of physical or legal entities that are officially registered in the territory of the Russian Federation with the Russian tax authorities. Typically, a product's exporter handles export customs-clearance and the product's importer handles import customs-clearance.

Exporting products into the Russian Federation can be a difficult task for inexperienced U.S. exporters, because import requirements and customs clearance rules frequently change. Therefore, it is recommended that the importer, with the help of up-to-date information sources, check all import documents closely and not violate Russian laws and Russian agencies' product-specific regulations.

Important mandatory requirements for safety and identification are articulated not only in sanitary and regulatory documents, such as the Sanitary Rules and Regulations ("SanPiN") but also in some national standards (known by the Russian abbreviation "GOST") and technical regulations.

It is important to acquire such documents as the Sanitary and Epidemiological Conclusion and the

Certificate of Conformity. The latter document is issued after other required certificates and documents are obtained. Also note that receiving certificates prior to the arrival of consignments (based on samples provided by the exporter) makes it possible to spend less time and reduce costs during customs clearance. For perishable products, securing a Certificate of Conformity may be difficult due to deviations from national standards for food safety and consumer quality indices. For food products of animal origin an import (veterinary) permit is needed and for products of plant origin an import quarantine permit is necessary. Both Veterinary and Quarantine permits are needed for fodder crops, and feeds. Import (veterinary) Permits and Import Quarantine Permits are issued by different divisions of the Russian Federal Service for Veterinary and Phytosanitary Surveillance (VPSS) either after inspection of cargo or/and on the basis of relevant certificates of the exporting country submitted to VPSS by importer.

### **Russian Legislation and Principal Regulatory Documents on Foodstuffs**

The Russian Federation ranks federal laws regarding foodstuffs, including foodstuffs of foreign origin, as follows:

- Federal Law On Protecting Consumer Rights No. 2300-1 of February 7, 1992 (with the Amendments and Additions of June 2, 1993, January 9, 1996, December 17, 1999, December 30, 2001, August 22, 2004, November 2, 2004, December 21, 2004, and October 27, 2007);
- Federal Law On The Quality And Safety Of Food Products No. 29-FZ (with the Amendments and Additions of December 30, 2001, January 10, 2003, June 30, 2003, August 22, 2004, May 9, 2005, December 5, 2005, December 31, 2005, and March 31, 2006);
- Federal Law On The Sanitary And Epidemiological Well-Being Of The Population No. 52-FZ (as amended on December 30, 2001, January 10, 2004, June 30, 2003, September 22, 2004, May 09, 2005, and December 31, 2005);
- Federal Law On State Regulation In The Sphere Of Genetic Engineering Activities No. 86-FZ of July 5, 1996, as amended by the Federal Law No. 96-FZ of July 12, 2000.
- Federal Law On State Regulation Of The Production And Handling Of Ethyl Alcohol, Spirits, And Products Containing Alcohol No. 171-FZ of November 22, 1995, as amended by Federal Law No. 248-FZ of December 29, 2006; and Federal Law On Technical Regulation No 184-FZ of December 27, 2002, as amended by Federal Law No. 65-FZ of May 1, 2007, and by Federal Law No. 189-FZ of July 18, 2009;
- Federal Law No. 268-FZ of December 22, 2008 “Technical Regulation for Tobacco Products” (adopted by the State Duma of the Federal Assembly of the RF on Dec. 03, 2008);
- Federal Law No. 178-FZ of October 27, 2008 “Technical Regulation for Juice Products from Fruits and Vegetables” (adopted by the State Duma of the Federal Assembly of the RF on Oct. 10, 2008);
- Federal Law No. 90-FZ of December June 24, 2008 “Technical Regulation for Oils and Fats Products” (adopted by the State Duma of the Federal Assembly of the RF on Jun. 11, 2008);
- Federal Law No. 88-FZ of December June 12, 2008 “Technical Regulation for Milk and Dairy Products” (adopted by the State Duma of the Federal Assembly of the RF on May 23, 2008);
- Draft Law “Technical Regulations on requirements for poultry, poultry meat, processed poultry products, their production process and handling;
- Draft Law “Technical Regulations for requirements for meat and meat products its production and handling”

The Russian Federation ranks regulatory documents regarding foodstuffs, including foreign, as follows:

- Hygienic Requirements For Foodstuff Safety And Nutrition (in force as SanPiN 2.3.2.1078-01 since July 1, 2002) with several recent additions and amendments (the latest, #14, amendment adds sanitary and nutritional requirements for special food products for athletes);
- General Requirements For Providing Consumer Information Regarding Foodstuffs (GOST P 51074-2003); and
- Hygienic Requirements for Food Additives (Sanpin 2.3.2.1293-03) with two recent additions and amendments including major Additions and Amendments No. 1 to SanPiN 2.3.2.1293-03 (SanPiN 2.3.2.2364-08) of May 2008.

### **Russia's State Regulatory Bodies for Imported Foodstuffs**

The Federal Veterinary and Phytosanitary Surveillance Service, known also by the Russian abbreviation Rosselkhoz nadzor, and in the West as VPSS, monitors veterinary and phytosanitary conditions within Russia and enforces Russian legal requirements for veterinary and plant health. It has veterinary and phytosanitary authority at Russia's borders and within Russia's interior. VPSS is responsible for protecting the Russian Federation from imports infected with contagious animal diseases, plant pests and plant disease pathogens, quarantine plants and weeds, and any other consignments it believes pose a threat according to its sanitary and phytosanitary standards.

The Federal Service for the Protection of Consumer Rights and Human Well-Being of the Ministry of Health and Social Development, also known as Rospotrebnadzor, is responsible for food and foodstuff safety. Rospotrebnadzor may prohibit the sale of products that do not meet official requirements.

Other state bodies regulating imported goods and foodstuffs include:

The Federal Service for Technical Regulation and Metrology, also known as Rostekhnregulirovaniye, is part of the Ministry of Industry and Trade. Rostekhnregulirovaniye manages product assessment, processing, and servicing to determine if products conform to national standards and certification criteria.

The Federal Customs Service of Russia (FTS) regulates foreign economic activity with a system of customs fees, duties, and charges. Three agencies carry out customs control: the Federal Customs Service of Russia, the provincial departments of Customs, and the Customs House and Customs Post.

The Ministry of Industry and Trade regulates non-tariff external economic activity including licensing and quota administration.

Contact information for certification agencies and entities is at the end of this report.

### **Recent Changes**

VPSS has recently updated the list of products that require import quarantine permits and phytosanitary

certificates from exporting countries. The new list is shorter than the previous one and excludes some non-agricultural products, deeply processed agricultural products, and some food products in retail packs (for more information see GAIN report RS9048 Imported Products Under Quarantine and Phytosanitary Control).

While not a new legislative requirement, interest in enforcing the “Order of the Ministry of Agriculture of the Russian Federation of January 9, 2008” has evolved this year. In order to obtain an import permit for animals, products of animal origin, pharmaceutical products, feed and feed additives the exporter must be on a list of enterprises that are inspected by the State Veterinary Service of the Russian Federation and listed as enterprises eligible to export to the Russian Federation. While approved lists of facilities have been a longstanding requirement for exporters of meat and poultry to Russia, to date the United States has not submitted lists for other products as required by the legislation. VPSS has requested lists for dairy, pet food, fodder, fish and processed meat products and cautioned the United States that import permits may be canceled or refused if lists for dairy, pet food, fodder are not provided by August 1, 2009, and lists for processed meat are not received by September 1, 2009. Trade in pet food was blocked from January until May 2009 when VPSS agreed to extend the deadline for submitting the pet food list to August 2009.

### **Principal Requirements for Food Safety**

The Hygienic Requirements for Foodstuff Safety and Nutritional Value (SanPiN 2.3.2.1078-01, as amended by several recent SanPiNs) details general requirements for food safety. SanPiN 2.3.2.1078-01 forms the regulatory basis for the activity of all individuals and organizations involved in foodstuff production, importation, and distribution. It also regulates organizations engaged in retail and public catering. SanPiN 2.3.2.1078-01 additionally establishes hygienic requirements for substances and materials that come into contact with foodstuffs. Based on SanPiN 2.3.2.1078-01, Rospotrebnadzor oversees the domestic foodstuffs market in Russia.

### **Section II. Labeling Requirements:**

The general requirements for labeling food products are stipulated in the federal law, “On Protecting Consumer Rights.” However, the details on labeling are prescribed by special GOSTs. The primary legislation is “The General Requirements for Consumer Information Regarding Foodstuffs, GOST P 51074-2003”, which came into effect on July 1, 2005. This standard incorporates the Codex Alimentarius International Food-Packaging Standards [Codex Stan 1-1985 (Rev.1-1991)]. Among other things, GOST P 51074-2003 regulates pre-packaged food sold either in retail or wholesale markets that supplies public catering facilities, schools, children’s facilities, therapeutic facilities, and other facilities directly servicing consumers. GOST P 51074-2003 establishes general requirements for product information that must be provided to customers.

The following information must be presented in the Russian language: data about the manufacturer (including the organization authorized to accept claims from consumers), country of origin, trademark, net weight or quantity, composition, nutritional value based on the specificity of the product, storage conditions, use-by date or shelf-life expiration date, regulatory or technical documents with which the products can be identified, [1] confirmation of conformity, and other data.

GOST P 51074-2003 also requires labeling of the following:

- food additives, biologically active additives, flavorings, components of non-traditional composition (including components from raw materials containing protein that does not exist naturally and was added while manufacturing the product); and
- food products that are products of biotechnology, obtained from products of biotechnology, or contain components from products of biotechnology.

For products with biotech components, information must be provided when these components contain more than the permitted level of biotech ingredients. In 2007 the amendments to the federal law on Protecting Consumer Rights and to SanPiN 2.3.2.1078-01 set a 0.9 percent threshold for each biotech (genetically modified material - GMM) component in food products for mandatory labeling [2] . The information on the label must read (in Russian):

- for products containing viable GMM – “Product contains live genetically modified microorganisms”;
- for products containing unviable GMM – “Product is obtained based on genetically modified microorganisms”;
- for products that are free from technological GMM or for products obtained based on components free from technological GMM – “Product have components that are obtained based on genetically modified microorganisms” [3]

The manufacturer may list the basic mineral substances and vitamins inherent in the product without indicating their quantity. Manufacturers are required to list a recommended daily allowance in accordance with established procedures.

If more than 2 percent of the recommended daily allowance of proteins, fats, carbohydrates, or calories is included in a 100-gram serving, this information must be included on the label. The label must also indicate if a 100-gram serving contains more than 5 percent of the daily recommended allowance of minerals or vitamins. GOST P 51074-2003 covers all special requirements for nutrition labeling. GOST P 51074-2003 seeks to incorporate international standards in order to prevent technical trade barriers from arising during international transactions. It is intended to provide an objective and trustworthy method for assessing the quality and safety of products in Russia.

Information requirements have been clarified since the previous GOST (R P 51074-97) for the following food categories:

- Meat and meat products;
- Poultry meat;
- Eggs and processed egg products;
- Milk, dairy products, and products containing milk;
- Fish, non-fish fishery products, and products manufactured from fish;
- Canned products;
- Preserved fish and seafood;

- Wine products;
- Products manufactured by the beer and non-alcoholic beer industry;
- Malt beverages;
- Beverages manufactured with grain as a raw material; and
- Low-alcohol beverages.

The general requirements [4] for the Russian information label are:

- Product name;
- Product type, grade, or category;
- Name, country, address of producer, packer, exporter and importer;
- Product weight (net and gross) or volume;
- Product nutritional quality;
- Ingredients;
- Date of processing;
- Storage conditions;
- Shelf life; and
- Conformity stamp (RST).

In 2008 Russia adopted hygienic requirements for organic food products [5] , and since July 1, 2008 a product may be labeled “organic” only if it was produced, transported, stored, handled and distributed in accordance with the requirements.

The labeling of diet products, baby-food, other special products shall meet special requirements stipulated for these products in relevant GOSTs and in SanPiN 2.3.2.1078-01.

<sup>[1]</sup> This requirement is not mandatory for products manufactured abroad.

<sup>[2]</sup> Please see also GAIN Report RS7053 “Russia Establishes 0.9 percent Threshold for Biotech Labeling”.

<sup>[3]</sup> Addition #6 to SanPiN 2.3.2.1078-01

<sup>[4]</sup> Please note that there are also product-specific requirements.

<sup>[5]</sup> GAIN report RS8045 *Organic Products / New SanPiN for Organic Products 2008*

### **Section III. Packaging and Container Regulations:**

Foodstuff packaging, currently regulated by 169 GOST standards vary by type of packaging. Hygienic standards have been created for materials that come into contact with foodstuffs listed in HN 2.3.3.972-00. HN 2.3.3.972-00 also specifies the maximum permissible quantities of chemical substances allowed to escape from materials in contact with foodstuffs. Packing materials and transport containers must have completed sanitary and epidemiological inspection and have a certificate of conformity. GOST P ISO 3394-99 establishes the permitted size, shape, and material of transport containers.

Many products imported into Russia must meet product-type-specific packaging requirements.

Packaged grains, for example, must be packaged in air-permeable materials as stated in the Ministry of Agriculture’s Order No. 681 of September 3, 2002.

Specifications for packaging are a vital part of each commercial contract. Before signing a contract, the importer should research the specific packaging requirements and advise the exporter accordingly.

The Federal Veterinary and Phytosanitary Service updated its list of agriculture and food products, including forestry products, that require quarantine and phytosanitary certification by Russian authorities. The new rules went into effect on July 15, 2009. These new regulations amend the previous requirements for imports as set forth in a document entitled “List of quarantine products (quarantine material and/or shipments) that are subjected to quarantine and phytosanitary control” dated December 11, 2006 (see GAIN RS 7011). The amendment in the regulation that refers to wood packaging materials enforces in Russia ISPM-15 “Guidelines for regulating wood packaging material in international trade”. The adoption of these rules harmonizes Russia’s regulation with international rules and procedures for wood packaging materials. For additional information please see GAIN RS9047 (for wood products) and RS9048 (for agricultural and food products).

Packaging (e.g., cardboard or paper boxes, plastic or polymer packets, bottles or cans) that comes into direct contact with products must be certified.

Air, water, and steam affect some products. Therefore, the permeability of the packaging material to gas, steam, water, fats, and odors is an important requirement. For instance, chilled meat must be packaged in material with low-vapor permeability in order to prevent the loss of moisture. The material must also have a specific gas-permeability to preserve the color. Products must be packed reliably, taking into account their nature, the method of transport, and storage temperatures.

Sanitary and hygienic requirements must also be used when selecting food packaging. Packing material may not be manufactured from highly toxic compounds having cumulative characteristics, including carcinogenicity, mutagenicity, or allergenicity. The material must not change the organoleptic or nutritional qualities of the foodstuffs, and it may not discharge hazardous substances in excess of permissible levels.

#### **Section IV. Food Additives Regulations:**

Food additive control and regulation are included in Section 9 of SanPiN 2.3.2.1078-01 and SanPiN-2.3.2.1293-03, Hygienic Requirements for Food Additives. These rules establish safety requirements for food additives in order to make products safe for human consumption. The total list of allowed food additives consists of several hundred names and is given in the Attachement 7 to the SanPiN 2.3.2.1078-01. Rospotrebnadzor may prohibit or add use of food additives based on safety testing of these additives.

Food additives prohibited in foodstuff manufacturing include:

<b>Code</b>	<b>Name of the food additive</b>	<b>Technological function</b>
E121	Citrus Red 2	Colorant
E123	Amaranth	Colorant
E240	Formaldehyde	Preservative
E924a	Potassium Bromate	Flour and bread enhancer
E924b	Calcium Bromate	Flour and bread enhancer



Since 2005, Rospotrebnadzor has also prohibited importing foodstuffs produced using preservatives E216 and E217. In most cases Rospotrebnadzor follows EU regulations on food additives. Thus, in 2007 production and importing of foodstuffs produced using food additive E128 was prohibited after this additive was banned in the EU.

In May 26, 2008 Rospotrebnadzor amended its food additive regulations with SanPiN 2.3.2.2364-08, Changes and Amendments No. 1 to SanPiN 2.3.2.1293-03 Hygiene Requirements for Use of Food Additives. Appendix 3, Section 3.1 of SanPiN-2.3.2.1293-03, regulates foodstuffs and food additives that are used for production and applied in accordance with the Technological Instruction Manual.

Appendix 3 also lists foodstuffs, for example baby food, that have more stringent food-additive regulations. The Amendment No. 2 to SanPiN 2.3.2.1293-03 was made on April 27, 2009 and allows temporary use of preservative E239 (Hexamethylene Tetramine).

## **Section V. Pesticides and Other Contaminants:**

Russia enforces its own permissible content levels for pesticides and contaminants in domestic and imported products. The Maximum Residue Levels (MRLs) for pesticides and agrochemicals in agricultural crops are developed and established by two different independent agencies.

Rospotrebnadzor at the Ministry of Health develops the MRLs for pesticides and agrochemicals. These norms are summarized in a document called “Hygiene Norms (HN) for Chemicals and Pesticides in the External Entities (HN 1.2.1323-03)” and in amendments to these Norms (for more information see GAIN RS9028 MRLs for Pesticides and Chemicals in Agricultural Crops). The MRLs are structured in the tables by names of active substances, and specified for different external entities: soil, air, water, human body, crops. Rospotrebnadzor’s SanPiN 2.3.2.1078-01 “Hygienic Requirements for Safety and Nutritional Value of Food Products” also provides general MRLs of pesticides for different groups of food products. SanPiN 2.3.2.1078-01 also mandates that the level of pesticide residue allowed in raw materials (e.g., in grain or vegetables) should be tested for each product.

Another government agency, VPSS at the Ministry of Agriculture, examines, approves and registers pesticides and agrochemicals, which can be used in Russia. It regulates application procedures and the use of officially registered pesticides. The Ministry of Agriculture also annually publishes standards in the “State Catalogue of Pesticides and Agricultural Chemical Substances Allowed for Use in the Russian Federation”, available in Russian on the Ministry of Agriculture website at [http://www.mcx.ru/index.html?he\\_id=961&doc\\_id=7610](http://www.mcx.ru/index.html?he_id=961&doc_id=7610). The catalogue contains chemical groupings, usage requirements, application timeframes, and a list of chemical agents to be used for each pest or weed. Chemical agents not listed in this catalogue are banned from use and their residue is not allowed in or on foodstuffs. VPSS also controls MRLs for pesticides and agrochemicals in agricultural crops grown and imported into Russia. The basis for this control is developed by Rospotrebnadzor.

For more information on pesticides control and MRL’s in imported agricultural and food products see Post’s GAIN reports MRLs for Pesticides and Chemicals in Agricultural Crops 04-22-2009, and VPSS Controls Pesticides in Plant Products 05-07-2009.

## **Section VI. Other Regulations and Requirements:**

SanPiN 2.3.2.1078-01 establishes specific requirements for safety with respect to various groups of foodstuffs. Appropriate sections of this report contain information about these requirements.

### **General Requirements for Products of Plant Origin**

Three international documents form the basis of Russian phytosanitary requirements:

- the International Plant Protection Convention,
- the WTO agreement on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures, and
- the Food and Agricultural Organization International Standards on Phytosanitary Measures.

Phytosanitary regulation applies to all imports of plants and products of plant origin. The Federal Legislation on Plant Quarantine of July 15, 2000 and the Ministry of Agriculture's Order No. 681 of September 3, 2002 state the main requirements. The latter deals specifically with plant quarantine when importing, storing, transporting, or using grain or grain products used for food, feed, or processing.

The Ministry of Agriculture and VPSS have issued a number of regulatory documents that clarify the quarantine requirements for products being imported into or transported domestically within Russia.

The most important regulations are the List of Pests, Plant Diseases, and Weeds with Quarantine Issues, found at [http://www.mcx.ru/index.html?he\\_id=484&doc\\_id=3252](http://www.mcx.ru/index.html?he_id=484&doc_id=3252) and the Commodity Nomenclature (List of Agricultural and Food Commodities) Subject to Quarantine Phytosanitary Control.

The List of Pests, Plant Diseases, and Weeds with Quarantine Issues contains the following sections:

- I. Quarantine organisms not present in Russia
  - a. Plant pests
  - b. Plant diseases
  - c. Weeds
- II. Quarantine organisms of limited presence in Russia
  - a. Plant pests
  - b. Plant diseases
  - c. Weeds

In order to bring Russian rules on plant quarantine into conformity with European and WTO standards, the government has recently updated the List of Agricultural and Food Commodities Subject to Quarantine Phytosanitary Control List [1]. This list consists of two product groups: commodities which require phytosanitary certificates from the exporting country, and commodities which do not require phytosanitary certificates from the exporting country in order to receive an import quarantine permit. The document is published among the "Documents" on the VPSS's web-site <http://fsvps.ru/fsvps-docs/ru/vetlaw/fitocontrol/goods/quarantineprodlist.pdf>. VPSS and the Federal Customs Service are working jointly on this new nomenclature system. VPSS and the Federal Customs Service can amend such regulations. Additionally, the Federal Customs Service may add, drop, or

amend tariff codes. Therefore, it is imperative that Russian-speaking employees of importers or exporters monitor these changes.

Phytosanitary certificates are not presently required for some goods of plant origin, including some deeply processed agricultural products, like protein concentrates, and some products in consumer packs, like roasted coffee in consumer packs. However, for food products in consumer packs Rospotrebnadzor usually requires sanitary-epidemiological certification or registration for these goods.

Several Ministry of Agriculture guidelines also regulate trade, including:

- Conditions for Using Imported and Domestic Grain and Grain Products, and List of Approved Facilities (1999); and
- Order No. 61 of April 4, 2006, On Temporary Procedures to Issue Permission for Imported Products Subject To Quarantine Procedures.

Any product subject to quarantine regulations can only be cleared at authorized customs temporary storage facilities as stated in the Ministry of Agriculture's Order No. 220 of August 3, 2005.

One of the latest documents is the Ministry of Agriculture's Order No. 163 of March 14, 2007, On Organizing Activities To Issue Phytosanitary And Quarantine Certificates. The full text is available at [http://www.mcx.ru/index.html?he\\_id=900&doc\\_id=14166](http://www.mcx.ru/index.html?he_id=900&doc_id=14166). This document specifies requirements, procedures, and timelines for submitting import and export documents and for receiving phytosanitary and quarantine certificates. In accordance with the Federal Law on Plant Quarantine, quarantined products are to be classified as plants, products of plant origin, transport containers and packaging, soil or other organisms, or as objects or materials that may carry or spread hazardous organisms. The Ministry of Agriculture has long been working on the Amendments to the Federal Law on Plant Quarantine, but these amendments have not been adopted yet by the Russian parliament.

An import quarantine permit is mandatory for the above-mentioned products to be brought into the Russian Federation, transported within Russia, or taken out of a phytosanitary quarantine zone. VPSS has the authority to review, issue, or deny applications for phytosanitary and quarantine certificates.

VPSS issues import quarantine permits from its headquarters or from regional offices closer to where the products will be delivered. A phytosanitary import permit is valid for 15 days after being issued.

Imports must cross the Russian border during this time. There is also a procedure to reissue expired permits. For products exported from the Russian Federation VPSS issues phytosanitary certificates and tries to meet importer's phytosanitary requirements.

Applications for import quarantine permits will be approved or rejected within 30 days of receipt of the completed application and all required documents, including, when needed, a phytosanitary certificate of the exporting country. Regional offices will send approved permits to VPSS headquarters to obtain a registration number. Documents without a registration number are invalid.

VPSS approved an application format and a list of documents required to obtain an import quarantine permit. As described in the quarantine regulations, each lot brought into or transported through Russian territory requires a quarantine permit.

VPSS will issue phytosanitary and quarantine certificates and permits only in the name of the physical or legal entity registered in the territory of the Russian Federation with the Russian tax authorities.

If authorities detect a quarantined organism during quarantine inspections at border checkpoints, they have the right to decontaminate the shipment or return the shipment to the exporter. If decontamination is not possible, the authorities may dispose of the shipment in a manner compliant with phytosanitary rules.

Some products of plant origin such as fodder, grains, soybeans, and feeds also should meet VPSS's veterinary requirements, and should be accompanied by the veterinary certificate issued by the exporting country.

Since 2000 the Russian government has required registration of biotechnology crops (events) and has monitored marketing of products derived from products of biotechnology. Russia currently allows 15 kinds of biotechnology crops, including: three types of soy, eight types of corn, one type of sugar beets, two types of potatoes, and one type of rice (for details please see Post's GAIN report Biotechnology Annual 2009 07-17-2009). According to the current Russian legislation up to 0.9 percent of each biotech ingredient is considered adventitious and does not require labeling. Feeds are not subject to labeling. VPSS's instruction defines feed as biotech free if 0.5 percent or less of each component contains a non-registered biotech product, and if 0.9 percent or less of each component contains any registered biotech products.

### **Additional Data**

Certificates are issued for each lot of a product. A lot is a specified quantity (depending on the product) that meets the following requirements:

- the product was manufactured at one facility,
- the entire lot was manufactured during the same month, and
- the entire lot was transported in the same vehicle.

All of the above criteria must be met in order for a product to be described as a single lot. If, for example, products arrive in the same vehicle but were manufactured during different months, separate certificates and packaging descriptions will be assigned.

<sup>[1]</sup> For details see Post's GAIN report *Imported Products Under Quarantine and Phytosanitary Control* 07-23-2009

### **Section VII. Other Specific Standards:**

1. Most Russian standards are codified in the State Standards (GOST). The website [www.gost.ru](http://www.gost.ru) includes a search engine and a list of recently published standards in Russian.

2. The Sanitary Rules and Norms (SanPiN) are de-facto standards, though they are not formally classified as such. The latest SanPiNs are available online in Russian at <http://www.rospotrebnadzor.ru/>. Earlier SanPiNs are only available in hard copy.

3. Federal agencies and services such as VPSS and Rospotrebnadzor may develop other rules from time to time. One example is the biotech-content threshold. As these are ad hoc, traders must closely monitor announcements of new rules that serve as de facto standards.

### **Section VIII. Copyright and/or Trademark Laws:**

Trademark and intellectual property laws are based on the Federal Law No. 3520-I of September 23, 1992. This law governs trademarks, service marks, and geographic appellations.

The government amended this law by passing Federal Law No. 166 on December 11, 2002. These amendments were made to facilitate Russia's integration into the global economy and WTO accession. The legislation seeks to better protect registered trademarks by defining infringing goods and facilitating the physical disposal of infringing products that have been seized.

The new law also offers a mechanism to contest intellectual property rights violations and bring suit for the illegal use of trademarks. These new procedures help ensure respect for applicants' rights. The amendments help clarify the standards and procedures for registering trademarks, grounds for the denial of trademark registration, and methods for contesting trademark usage verdicts.

### **Section IX. Import Procedures:**

#### **Overview**

All imported commodities are classified in accordance with the Codes of the Customs Commodities' Nomenclature of the Foreign Economic Activity of the Russian Federation. Their descriptions can be found online at <http://www.customs.ru/ru/tariffs/>. These codes are similar, but not identical, to the U.S. Customs Service Harmonized Code numbers.

#### **Import Operations for Products of Animal Origin**

When a consignment reaches the Russian border, the importer must give customs operators a bank document verifying that he has made a deposit for the assigned duties and taxes. Before a bank can provide documents for customs clearance, the importer must provide proof of business registration, a supplier contract, and veterinary documents permitting imports. Each lot must also have a domestic veterinary certificate (Form No. 2) from the veterinary service at the border. The importer can obtain Form No. 2 by providing the following:

1. Delivery contracts, loading bill, invoice, packing list, and customs declaration [1] ;
2. Veterinary certificate;
3. U.S. veterinary health certificate;
4. Safety certificate;
5. Certificate of conformity; and

## 6. Certificate of origin.

The following documents are necessary to conduct a sanitary and epidemiological expert examination (SEZ) for imported products:

- Completed application including:
  - a. Application form stamped by the applicant for conduct of inspection of the product being applied for,
  - b. Name and legal address of the applicant (for organizations)
  - c. Last name, first name, and patronymic of applicant or authorized representative;
- Contract or data about the contract to supply the product;
- Copies of documents confirming the product's safety for humans provided by authorities in the country of origin;
- Copies of the regulatory and/or technical documents (technical specifications, regulations, technical instructions, specifications, formulas/compositions, etc.) that were used when manufacturing the imported product;
- Consumer label, draft of consumer label, or data to be included on consumer label;
- Testing protocols and conclusions of the accredited labs (if available); and
- Product samples in the quantity or volume required to conduct a sanitary and epidemiological evaluation if there are no results from previously conducted expert examinations and no evaluation estimates of toxicological, hygienic, or other tests.

The importer must submit one set of documents. Documents in a foreign language must be translated into Russian.

### **Certification of Individual Batches and Shipments Based on the Contract**

Importers should submit the following items with the application: [2]

- Contract to supply the product
- Transport documents
- Invoice
- Certificate of origin
- Certificate of quality from the supplier or the manufacturer
- Veterinary certificate (for products of animal origin)
- Phytosanitary certificate (for products of plant origin)
- Veterinary certificate from the country of origin
- Import permit from VPSS (if applicable)

The list of required documents may be extended. Products under tariff rate quota, for example, may require proof that the importer holds an import-quota allocation from the Ministry of Industry and

Trade.

## **Transport Documents**

Transport documents are standard documents required by any national importer.

## **Customs Payments**

Customs clearance usually occurs at the point of destination and typically takes between 2 and 4 days. All customs documents must be in the Russian language. Customs duties, fees, and the value-added tax (VAT) are usually paid in advance to avoid delays in customs clearance. Customs duties, payments, and taxes depend on the type of product and are calculated based on the customs value of the product (i.e., product value plus transportation cost). The customs value cannot be less than the accepted value, a figure that customs authorities determine.

Traders should use the Russian Customs Tariff and Tax Code to calculate customs duties and fees. The Russian government published new customs tariff rates in Resolution 718 of November 27, 2006. Russia's Customs Tariff is a code of import-duty rates that corresponds with Russia's Commodity Nomenclature. Customs duties, fees, and payments are calculated based on rates from the customs value of the goods and are assigned while developing the consignment's customs declaration.

Tariff rates are subject to change, and thus importers and exporters must monitor amendments to the tariff schedule. The official website of the Russian Customs Service publishes tariffs at <http://www.customs.ru/ru/tariffs/>, but more current information is typically available at <http://www.tks.ru/db/tnved/tree>.

## **Special Requirements for Importing Individual Commodity Groups**

### **Meat and Poultry**

Products derived from meat processing must comply with Russian and USDA standards. Meat must come from inspected and approved facilities. The USDA Food Safety and Inspection Service's Export Library lists these facilities. It can be found online at [http://www.fsis.usda.gov/Regulations\\_& Policies/Eligible\\_US\\_Establishments\\_by\\_Country/index.asp](http://www.fsis.usda.gov/Regulations_& Policies/Eligible_US_Establishments_by_Country/index.asp).

### **Inspection of Meat Processing and Packing Facilities**

#### **Poultry**

Inspectors from VPSS must examine all facilities that process or store raw poultry intended for export to Russia. After inspection and approval, VPSS includes the establishments on an official list of approved facilities. Facilities must pay all inspection costs. The U.S.-Russia Criteria for Processing and

Refrigeration Facilities Exporting Poultry to the Russian Federation states the requirements for facilities. To receive additional information on facilities' inspection, inspection criteria, or a list of approved facilities, please contact FSIS's Technical Service Center, Export Division at (402) 221-7400. A list of approved poultry facilities can be found online at

<http://www.fsis.usda.gov/Frame/FrameRedirect.asp?main=http://www.fsis.usda.gov/OFO/export/RussiaPoulst.htm>.

## **Pork**

Inspectors from VPSS must examine all facilities that process or store raw pork intended for export to Russia. After inspection and approval, VPSS includes the establishments on an official list of approved facilities. Facilities must pay all inspection costs. To receive additional information on facilities' inspection, inspection criteria, or a list of approved facilities, please contact FSIS's Technical Service Center, Export Division at (402) 221-7400. A list of approved pork facilities can be found online at

<http://www.fsis.usda.gov/Frame/FrameRedirect.asp?main=http://www.fsis.usda.gov/OFO/export/Irpork.htm>.

## **Beef**

Inspectors from VPSS must examine all facilities that process or store raw beef intended for export to Russia. After inspection and approval, VPSS includes the establishments on an official list of approved facilities. Facilities must pay all inspection costs. To receive additional information on facilities' inspection, inspection criteria, or a list of approved facilities, please contact FSIS's Technical Service Center, Export Division at (402) 221-7400. In July 2008 VPSS ended its ban on U.S. beef and approved several U.S. facilities for export of beef to Russia. A list of approved beef facilities can be found online at

<http://www.fsis.usda.gov/Frame/FrameRedirect.asp?main=http://www.fsis.usda.gov/OFO/export/Irubeef.htm>

## **Labeling Information for Consumers**

In addition to other regulation, the General Requirements for Consumer Information Regarding Foodstuffs, GOST P 51074-2003, establishes the following requirements:

- Refrigerated poultry meat, offal, consumer-ready products, sausage, or any meat products must be labeled as frozen or chilled;
- Packaging must be labeled for poultry meat, consumer-ready products, culinary items, sausage, products from meat, and culinary items from poultry meat if packaged in vacuum packs or modified gas media (MGM);
- The percentage of meat, fat, offal, and plant-origin components must be listed for canned products – including those from poultry meat, ham, porridges containing meat - and for



- consistent, finely ground products;
- Recommendations for the product's final preparation are required for consumer-ready canned products.

## **Pesticides and other Contaminants**

SanPiN 2.3.2.1078-01 and additions and amendments to this SanPiN establish permitted levels of pesticides and other contaminants. Levels of contamination by heavy metals including cadmium, lead, mercury, and arsenic are considered when determining toxicological indices of safety for meat, poultry meat, and processed products thereof.

Maximum permissible levels are also set for:

- Antibiotics (Levomycetin, Grysin, Bacitracin, and the tetracycline group)
- Pesticides (hexachlorocyclohexane – alpha, beta, and gamma isomers)
- DDT (dichlorodiphenyltrichloroethane) and its metabolites
- Radionuclides (cesium, strontium)

In meat products manufactured using nitrites, maximum permissible levels exist for nitrosamines (total NDMA and NDEA), as well as for benzopyrene in smoked meat products. For all meat products, microbiological indices are established in SanPiN 2.3.2.1078-01.

On June 2, 2008, the Russian government signed Decree No. 33, On Production and Circulation of Poultry Meat. Decree No. 33 prohibits handling poultry carcasses with water-based solutions that contain chlorine in amounts exceeding the hygienic requirements for drinking water. Currently this resolution is scheduled to be implemented on January 1, 2010. If enforced, the resolution will effectively prohibit a common industry practice of using chlorine in antimicrobial washes to kill surface food-borne pathogens such as *Salmonella* and *E. coli*.

## **Import Quotas**

The Russian Federation has tariff-rate quotas regulating the imports of chilled and frozen beef, pork, and poultry. Russian Federation Resolution № 211 of March 10, 2009, reestablished quota volumes for these items permitted for import under reduced tariffs in 2009 as well as rates for the import customs duties both in and out of quota (please see GAIN RS9020 *Meat & Poultry TRQ Mechanism Announced for 2009* for full details). Market access for meat and poultry beyond 2009 is currently under discussion.

On June 7, 2008, Russia's Chief Medical Officer [3] Gennadiy Onishchenko signed Resolution No. 30, On Approval of SanPiN 2.3.2 2362-08. With the exception of mechanically-separated meat and collagen containing raw materials from poultry meat, the resolution prohibits the use of frozen poultry

meat for manufacturing baby food, dietetic nutrition, and specialized food products for pregnant and nursing women, effective January 1, 2010. It further prohibits the use of frozen poultry meat for manufacturing into any type of food product, effective January 1, 2011. Chilled meat and offal are defined as meat and offal obtained immediately from slaughter, cooled to temperatures ranging from 0° to 4° Celsius in deep muscle tissue.

## **Eligible/Ineligible Meat and Poultry Products**

### **A. Eligible**

- Poultry and poultry products (including bulk-packed ground poultry)
- Pork and pork products
- Deboned beef, bone-in beef, and beef byproducts derived from cattle less than 30 months of age. The beef and beef byproducts must be derived from cattle raised in the United States and must be processed in a manner to prevent contamination with brain, spinal cord, eyes, skull, and vertebral column regardless of the age of the animal. Eligible beef and beef byproducts must be produced under an approved AMS Export Verification (EV) program for beef to Russia. Information about the EV program for Russia can be obtained from <http://www.ams.usda.gov/AMSV1.0/getfile?dDocName=STELPRDC5058609>
- Horsemeat
- Baby food containing beef imported from Australia and/or New Zealand is eligible for export to Russia

### **B. Ineligible**

- Beef and beef products other than those identified in the Eligible Products section above and all bison meat and bison meat products
- Red meat - Importation of ground red meat, packaged in bulk form or in the form of meat patties, is prohibited by the Russian authorities
- Lamb, sheep, and goat products. However, fully cooked, canned baby food containing lamb is eligible for export to Russia
- Consumer size packages of ground poultry, mechanically deboned poultry, and giblets are not eligible for export to Russia
- Meat and Poultry imported into the United States from third countries
- Effective April 30, 2009, all meat and poultry products in passenger bags from the United States will be prohibited

State-by-state restrictions on meat and poultry products changes frequently. Please contact the following U.S. Government website and/or offices for updated information:

The list of current meat and poultry export requirements, including restrictions, is available at [http://www.fsis.usda.gov/Regulations\\_& Policies/Russia Requirements/index.asp](http://www.fsis.usda.gov/Regulations_&Policies/Russia_Requirements/index.asp)

For updated status of restrictions due to disease outbreaks:

Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS)

Technical Service Center

Omaha, Nebraska

tel. (402) 221-7400

fax (402) 418-8914

For current export requirements:

Food Safety and Inspection Services (FSIS)

Export Coordination Division

tel. (202) 501-6022

fax (202) 501-6929

## **Importation Procedures**

In order to bring a product into the Russian Federation at the in-quota tariff rate for fresh, chilled, and frozen beef, pork, poultry, and poultry offal, it is necessary to secure a license. The Ministry of Industry and Trade (MIT) issues this license.

MIT reviews license applications within 5 days of submission and then issues the licenses. Licenses are to be obtained annually or each time the volume of the imported meat increases.

VPSS must then grant an import permit, which the importer must request by letter from the local veterinary directorate for intended meat imports. The local veterinary directorates relay the requests to the central authorities of VPSS. Once granted, permission is sent to the border by telegram [4] , indicating the volume and place of origin for the meat that the importer is permitted to bring into the country, as well as the use for which it is approved (retail sale, industrial processing for food purposes, etc.) This process takes 2 weeks.

Approximately 3 days before the shipment is due to arrive; the importer must transfer money into a designated bank deposit to pay for customs fees and taxes based on the shipment's value. When the shipment arrives at customs, the importer has to provide documents from the bank certifying payment has been made. The importer must sign an agreement with regional departments in advance, as well as provide documents to prove the business is registered (charter/terms of reference documents), the contract with the supplier, the permission from the veterinary authorities allowing import of the meat, as well as bank confirmation of the transaction.

In order to obtain veterinary certification, the importer must present the documents listed in Section IX,

above. Once the shipment has veterinary certification, customs services will permit the cargo to pass through the port.

## **Veterinary Certificates**

In general, the Russian Federation requires veterinary certificates for products of animal origin. This document certifies that the product complies with the Russian veterinary requirements, and states that the product has been manufactured at a facility approved for export to Russia. According to the Russian sanitary-veterinary requirements, the following categories of products require Veterinary Certificates to be imported to the Russian Federation:

- Live animals, semen and embryos
- All types of meat and meat by-products including poultry
- Milk and dairy products
- Food products of egg-processing
- Materials of animal origin
- Feed and feed additives for animals including pet food
- Fish and sea-products and products of their processing

GAIN report RS7081 [5] reproduces in English translation the list of imported items including those issued by the Russian Service for Veterinary and Phyto-Sanitary Surveillance (VPSS), subject to veterinary inspection when crossing the Russian Federation border. They are listed as defined in the Russian tariff nomenclature, known as the TN VED (“tariff nomenclature for foreign economic activity”). As a rule, imported products subject to veterinary inspection are required to be accompanied by an appropriate veterinary certificate; it is the responsibility of exporters to ensure that any required certificates and other documents are obtained and that they accompany the shipment.

## **Import Permits**

On January 9, 2008, the Russian Ministry of Agriculture approved Order No. 1 [6] , regarding information concerning certain functions of the Federal Veterinary and Phytosanitary Surveillance Service regarding the issuance of import, export and transit permits.

An import permit must be obtained to import animals, products of animal origin, drugs, feed and feed additives for animals into the Russian Federation. However, it is not required for:

- small domestic animals belonging to citizens (no more than two animals); and
- industrially produced products of animal origin that have undergone thermal treatment, prepared products made from raw materials of animal origin factory-processed, manufactured in accordance with requirements of the standards and regulations when they are imported from countries that are free from infectious animal diseases included in the list of animal diseases that are subject to obligatory notification by the World Animal Health Organization (hereafter – infectious animal diseases), and that are not subject to any restrictions. Permits to import these

products are issued by the Chief State Veterinary Inspector of the Russian Federation of the constituent entity to which the regulated cargo is to be imported.

### **Other Documents**

- Certificate of Conformity (the procedure for procuring this document is listed below),
- Certificate of origin (not required for all exporting countries),
- Sanitary-epidemiological conclusion (the procedure to obtain this document is listed below),
- Invoice containing information on goods and transportation (for sea transportation – the Bill of Lading, for vehicle transportation - CMR).

### **Import Certificates for Meat and Poultry**

Meat and poultry exporters should remember that raw products and fully-cooked products have very different import procedures. To import raw meat, poultry and by-products Russian importers should obtain an Import Permit issued by VPSS, and the U.S. exporter must provide veterinary certification.

To import fully-cooked meat and poultry, Russian importers must register the product with the Federal Service for the Protection of Consumer Rights and Human Wellbeing (Rospotrebnadzor) prior to importation. In lieu of registration, importers may provide a Sanitary-Epidemiological Conclusion on the product. If the product is registered in the Russian Federation, the Russian importer must obtain a Certificate of Conformity for each shipment. In practice, the Certificate of Conformity is valid for one year. Meanwhile, the U.S. exporter should obtain FSIS Form 9450-7 as mentioned above.

In accordance with the certification system GOST P, confirmation of conformity may be exercised by way of declaring conformity and mandatory certification. The following meat and poultry products must be confirmed by the declaration of conformity:

- Meat from any type of slaughter and/or commercially hunted animals, as well as agricultural poultry and game;
- Offal from slaughter animals, poultry, alimentary blood;
- Crude fat resulting from beef, pork and poultry; chilled and frozen pork fat;
- Poultry meat processed using freeze drying and thermal drying processes, and bouillon cubes; and
- Edible gelatin.

Listed below are the products subject to mandatory certification.

- Meat-based baby foods;
- Chilled, salted, and smoked pork fat;
- Sausage items, smoked and culinary items from meat and poultry, pâté and aspic, etc.; and
- Canned meat and canned meat with vegetables.

The certificate of conformity for mandatory certification is issued using a yellow form; the certificate of conformity for voluntary certification is issued using a blue form, and declaration of conformity, a white form.

To obtain certification, the applicant must submit the following documentation to the certification body:

- Contract,
- Invoice,
- Bill of lading (CMR),
- Veterinary certificate,
- Veterinary certificate (Form 2),
- Certificate of origin, and
- Label.

The charter/terms of reference of the applicant's business are also necessary, if this is a first application.

Regardless of the procedure for conformity confirmation, the commission takes a sample from the lot of products for identification and laboratory testing, then the commission composes a report on the results of the laboratory tests. The samples are forwarded to an accredited laboratory, where they are tested. Upon completion of testing, the testing records are forwarded to the certification body. A similar set of documents is prepared to obtain the sanitary-epidemiological conclusion, which is issued by an office of Rospotrebnadzor. Based on these documents, the protocol of identification, the testing protocols, the sanitary-epidemiological conclusion and the certificate of conformity are issued.

Imported meat is usually certified using Schematic 7 (lot certification) or Schematic 10 (serial release, for a contract). The term of validity for Schematic 7 is limited by the expiration date of the meat product, and the term of validity for Schematic 10 is usually limited to one year.

The sanitary-epidemiological conclusion of a product is valid for one year.

## **Alcoholic Products**

The principal laws and legislative acts regulating Russian Federation alcohol imports (excepting those indicated in the general section) are:

Federal Law № 171 of November 22, 1995 on State Regulation of Production and Handling of Ethyl Alcohol, Alcohol Products, and Alcohol Containing Products (as amended as of December 30, 2008 by Federal Law № 313 “substitution of obligatory certification of ethyl alcohol, alcohol products, and alcohol containing products on declaration of conformity”).

- Resolution of the Government of the Russian Federation of December 31, 2005, № 866,

Labeling Alcohol Products with Excise Stamps;(Changes were made in Resolution of the Government of the Russian Federation of January 8, 2009, № 2);

- Resolution of the Government of the Russian Federation of December 31, 2005, № 872, Certification Attached to the Shipment Customs Declaration (as amended as of October 10, 2007);
- Resolution of the Government of the Russian Federation of February 8, 2006, № 80, amending the Resolution of the Government of the Russian Federation of January 19, 1998, № 55, and repealing certain acts regarding the retail sale of alcohol products; and
- Resolution of the Chief Medical Officer of the Russian Federation of February 28, 2007, № 7, “Increased Supervision over Production and Handling of alcohol products”.

Federal Law 171 establishes the legislative groundwork for the production and handling of ethyl alcohol, alcohol products and products containing alcohol in the Russian Federation. Federal Law 171 does not cover the production and handling of beer, nor does it cover the production and handling of natural beverages with alcohol content below 6 percent by volume manufactured from wine materials and produced without fortification with ethyl alcohol. This law delineates special requirements for the production and handling of alcoholic beverages and products containing alcohol. These special requirements include:

- Mandatory marking of products imported into the Russian Federation (ethyl alcohol content exceeding 9 percent by volume of the final product) with excise stamps;
- Documents necessary for import, as well as the documents that are necessary for the supplier and importer to carry out the production and handling of alcoholic beverages and products containing alcohol;
- Registration data about the alcoholic beverages and products containing alcohol in the Unified State Automated Information System (UFAIS);
- Information on the alcoholic product in the Russian language;
- Information about how consumer packaging ensures that one can determine if the product has been tampered with; and
- Quality of the alcohol products brought into the Russian Federation.

Alcoholic products may pass through Customs into the Russian Federation only if the importer has a license to procure, store, and import such products.

The importer is responsible for marking the imported alcohol products with the excise stamps before the products enter the Russian Federation. To do this, the importer must provide for registration of the imported alcohol product in the Unified State Automated Information System (UFAIS), as well as print data about the alcohol product on the excise stamps, procure such stamps, and attach them to the consumer packaging. The importer bears responsibility for the authenticity of the data as well as for the correctness of their placement on the excise stamps. However, the supplier is responsible for providing the importer with correct information. The following data are placed on the excise stamp, much of the

data being provided by the exporter:

- Name of the alcoholic product;
- Type of alcoholic product;
- Ethyl alcohol content;
- Volume of the alcoholic product in consumer packaging;
- Producer of the alcoholic product;
- Country of origin of the alcoholic product;
- Identification of the special economic zone (OEZ); and
- Other data in accordance with Article 12 of Federal Law “On state regulation of production and handling of ethyl alcohol, alcoholic products and alcohol containing products.”

### **Information Requirements**

Labeling requirements for alcoholic products in the Russian language are presented in Federal Law 171 and in the National Standards GOST P 51074-2003 and GOST P 52194-2003 - Vodkas & Special Vodkas, Liqueur and Vodka Products. In addition to the general information required for a majority of all imported products, the following specific requirements are needed.

- For beer- The type of beer (light, semi-dark, dark), the value of alcohol by percent (except for non-alcoholic beer and special beer with aromatic and flavored additives), the minimum percentage of ethyl alcohol by volume, bottling date, the composition of the primary raw materials used to manufacture the beer, and the nutritional value must be on the label.
- For wine- In addition to the name and address of the producer, and the organization in the Russian Federation that is authorized to accept claims from the consumer in Russia (if available), the facility that bottled the wine, bottling date or the date it matures (for sparkling wines that age in bottles); the percentage of ethyl alcohol by volume, the mass concentration of the sugars (except for dry wines) should also be indicated. For sparkling wines, flavored wines, and ciders, the name based on the sugar content; the year of harvest (for controlled appellation wines based on the location, as well as for mature wines prepared from the grapes harvested during one year); the expiration date for wine in which the percentage ethyl alcohol by volume is less than 10%, and nutritional value should be indicated on the label as well.
- For alcoholic beverages- The volume of ethyl alcohol, concentration of sugar (if sugar is in the formulation) by mass, bottling date, the composition (including the list of the primary ingredients influencing the taste and the aroma of the product), the expiration date for beverages in which ethyl alcohol by volume is less than 10 percent.

As of February 1, 2007, a mandatory warning must be displayed on the label about the health risks of excessive alcohol consumption. For all alcohol products, information about the presence of the following is mandatory:



- Food additives;
- Flavorings;
- Biologically active food additives;
- Ingredients of non-traditional products;
- Any components of the product (if any) derived from products of biotechnology; and
- Content of substances that are hazardous to health, determined in conformity with the mandatory requirements of applicable Russian standards and technical regulations.

Russian President Dmitriy Medvedev signed Order #1883 on December 31, 2008 establishing the Federal Service for Regulation of the Alcohol Market (FSRAM).

Russian Prime Minister Vladimir Putin approved and signed Resolution #154 on February, 2009 which defines the functions of the Federal Service for Regulation of the Alcohol Market. According to the resolution the most important function of FSRAM lies in the sphere of control and in the legislative and normative regulation of the alcohol market. However, to date the agency is not functional.

## **Safety and Quality**

Safety and quality of alcoholic products imported to the Russian Federation must be not lower than those established by Russian standards and regulations. To clear customs, alcoholic products must be accompanied by documents confirming conformity with Russian standards of safety and quality: the sanitary-epidemiological conclusion and the certificate of conformity. To expedite customs clearance procedures, and to reduce the cost of clearance and temporary storage, it is recommended that sanitary-epidemiological expert examinations and certification of the imported products be conducted approximately 1 month in advance of the shipment's arrival at customs. To do this, the supplier must provide the following to the importer:

- Product samples of every type and/or name, in sufficient quantities to conduct the sanitary-epidemiological expert examination and certification (as a rule, four bottles of 0.7-0.8 dm<sup>3</sup> capacity or six bottles of 0.5 dm<sup>3</sup> capacity. If the capacities are different, then the total volume of the product to be tested must constitute at least 2 dm<sup>3</sup>; if the product is supplied in kegs, drums, or barrels, then the quantity of the product must be at least 6 dm<sup>3</sup>. Samples for testing are not subject to customs fees.);
- Contract to supply the product (or data about the contract), the annex to the contract or specifications (or the data about it);
- Documents confirming the origin, safety, and quality of the product (issued by the authorities of the country of origin), manufacturer of the product, the certificate of origin or another document confirming the origin, quality certificate and/or protocols of testing, assay and analysis; for products manufactured serially an ISO 9000 certificate of quality;
- Samples or mockups of the label; and
- Power of attorney on behalf of the manufacturer to the Russian firm to carry out activities to

certify their products (for products manufactured serially).

All documents, labels, and markings must be translated into the Russian language, and copies and their translations must be certified in accordance with established procedures.

Russian regulatory documentation requirements are more rigid for particular quality indices and safety indices of the alcohol products. This creates a substantial obstacle to obtaining sanitary-epidemiological conclusions and certificates of conformity. For example, the following information is required:

- Content of methanol, fusel oil, aldehydes, and esters in cognac and brandy;
- Volume of iron in cognac/brandy;
- Volume of total sulfur dioxide, citric acid, reduced extract in wines, in addition to exclusive requirements for the absence of sediment (deposits) in wines (crust on the walls of the bottle or on the bottom of the bottle is only acceptable in special collection wines); and
- Content of preservatives and microorganisms in beer and other low alcohol beverages.

Information about sanitary-epidemiological conclusions and certificates of conformity obtained is entered into a document attached to the shipment's customs declaration that is required for alcoholic products to enter Russian territory. This document also contains information about excise stamps. When buying and shipping ethyl alcohol (including denatured alcohol), if a non-consumer packaged product contains alcohol, and the ethyl alcohol content makes up more than 60 percent of the final product, one must obtain an additional document. This document contains the reference to the number of the Russian national technical regulation or technical specifications with which the product must comply.

As of July 1, 2008, alcohol is subject to the following rates of import duties: for beer (2203) – 0.6 euros per liter; for wine (2204) – 20% ad valorem; for alcoholic beverages (2208) – 2 euros per liter of 100% alcohol equivalent.

## **Fish and Seafood**

The following commodity codes apply for fish and seafood: for live fish, chilled fish, frozen fish, and ground fish: 0301, 0302, 0303, 0304. Code 0305 applies to fish products that are salted, spiced, marinated, cured by drying, dried, or smoked (cold smoked products and hot smoked products). For seafood (shellfish, crustaceans, and other animal origin invertebrates, as well as products resulting from them), the codes are 0306 and 0307.

Not all these products are subject to mandatory certification. Products having codes 0301, 0302, and 0303 have been withdrawn from the procedure of mandatory certification. Products with codes 0304 and 0305 are subject to mandatory certification. Seafood products with codes 0306 and 0307 are not subject to mandatory certification if the product is live, fresh, chilled, or raw-frozen. If, however, the

product is cooked (boiled) and frozen it is subject to mandatory certification.

Certification of fish, fish products, and seafood requires different procedures; most frequently Schematic 2 or 3a, less frequently Schematic 7 or 3, are being used in accordance with GOST R to certify such products. The certificate of conformity in accordance with Schematic 2 is usually issued for the term of one year, if the contract, and other aforementioned documents, are in order. More information on GOST R and certification schemes you can find in English on <http://www.gost-r.ru/eng.php?page=gostreng>.

Regardless of the form of conformity confirmation (certificate of conformity or declaration of conformity – the latter document accompanies the product to be sold with the following codes: 0301, 0302, 0303, 0306, and 0307, for product alive, fresh, chilled, or raw-frozen), the testing proceeds, with respect to safety indices, using the same rules and criteria of SanPiN 2.3.2.1078-01, as amended.

Importing fish products, as well as products manufactured from the non-fish hydro-bionts (shellfish, mollusks, and other invertebrates), requires presenting the following accompanying documents:

- Invoice and Packing List - The packing list for the invoice should contain the product description in the Russian language (name of the product and kind of packaging), and the lot volume (net weight and gross weight);
- Contract and specifications to the contract - The specification in the Russian language indicates the name of the product, the country of origin, the Russian commodity code (TN VED), and the lot volume;
- Veterinary certificate (in English and Russian, issued by the U.S. Department of Commerce, National Marine Fisheries Service)
- Certificate of origin (Russian officials require this document as proof of the country of origin for all imported food products. It is also used to determine duties and tariffs).

The most important accompanying documents constitute the first three items, including the veterinary certificate. The veterinary certificate issued by the U.S. government-approved authority must accompany all imports of fish and seafood products. The certificate confirms that the product meets all specified health and sanitary specifications. Fish products exported from the United States are under the jurisdiction of the Department of Commerce's National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS). Regional NMFS offices issue health certificates for all U.S. exports of fish that meet the Russian Federation requirements.

When a product is under scrutiny of the Russian veterinary service, the following documents are reviewed: the certificate of origin, certificate of health (hygienic health), certificate of conformity, and certificate of quality from the manufacturer. These documents, if in proper order, facilitate health inspections.

On April 28, 2009, Ministry of Agriculture Order #462 regarding Rules for Veterinary and Sanitary Laboratory Testing of Fish and Caviar entered into force. The objective of this order is to monitor and set a more rigid control over the safety of fish and caviar, as well as address the government plan to eliminate administrative barriers. The full text of the document in Russian can be viewed at:

<http://www.rg.ru/2009/04/17/ikra-ekspertiza-dok.html>

The order provides rules for veterinary testing for all types and species of fish: wild fish or farmed fish and caviar. According to the order, fish and caviar are subject to veterinary and sanitary laboratory testing with the objective of determining, whether products are fit for human consumption, as well as for fish farming, reproduction and acclimatization. Please refer to GAIN RS9034 “Sanitary and Veterinary Rules for Seafood Testing” for more information.

A label in the Russian language must contain information in accordance with the requirements of GOST P 51074 – 2003:

- Title (name) of the product (commodity name or biological name);
- Fishery location;
- Length and weight of fish (large, medium, small);
- Type of cutting (de-headed, eviscerated, sheet, pieces, etc.);
- Type of processing (salted, smoked cured by drying, etc.);
- Level of saltiness (lightly-salted, slightly-salted, medium-salted, strongly-salted);
- Name and location of the manufacturer [legal address including the country, if it is different from the legal address, then the address (addresses) of the production facility (facilities)] and the organization in the Russian Federation that is authorized by the manufacturer to accept claims from the customers on its territory;
- Trademark of the manufacturer (if available);
- Net weight;
- Nutritional value, vitamin content;
- Storage conditions;
- Period of time spent in storage for both live and frozen fish, for non-fish fishery subjects;
- Shelf life (use by date) for the foodstuffs included into the list of products adopted by the government of the Russian Federation, which are considered to be unfit for being used in accordance with the purpose upon completion of the term;
- Date of manufacture and date of packing [date, month, year (date, month and hour of completion of the technological process for special perishable products)];
- Composition of the product, including all food additives, flavorings, biologically active food additives, ingredients of the products having a non-traditional composition;
- Information about conformity confirmation (when the certificate of Conformity is available);
- Technique and conditions to manufacture ready to consume dishes (for semi-finished products/convenience food);
- Vacuumed packed (when vacuum packaging is used); and

- Location of the fishery area, length and weight of fish, type of cutting, type of processing, level of saltiness, composition of the product, and information on the preparation technique and/or consumption is indicated when required.

The following national standards regulate consumer indices of the products in a particular group:

- GOST R 51493-99, Frozen cut fish and uncut fish, technical specifications;
- GOST R 51494-99, Frozen fillet of marine fish, technical specifications;
- GOST R 51495-99, Frozen squid, technical specifications;
- GOST R 51496-99, Frozen raw shrimp, blanched shrimp, and cooked shrimp, technical specifications;
- GOST R 51497-99, Fish, shellfish, and cuttlefish. dimensional categories.

Other imported goods from fish and seafood must have quality indices in accordance with interstate standards accepted in the CIS countries:

- GOST 1368-91, Fish, all types of processing, length and weight;
- GOST 24896-81, Live fish, technical specifications;
- GOST 814-96, Chilled fish, technical specifications;
- GOST 30314-95, Frozen scallop fillet, technical specifications.

The important safety indices for all fish products and seafood are the absence of parasites and their larvae, especially those that present danger to human beings.

During parasitological inspection, samples are checked for presence of the following groups of ichthyic-parasitological fauna:

- Parasitological fauna that present a danger to human beings - to get a permit to use fish for food purposes, there must be no live parasites of certain kinds since they are dangerous only when they are alive;
- Parasitological fauna that change the physical-chemical properties of fish – during inspection, calculating the quantity of parasites in this group is not important; the important matter is the level of fish tissue damage resulting from this kind of parasite;
- Parasitological fauna that damage the commodity appearance/aspect of the fish material or fish product – this type of parasite is detected visually;
- To determine whether fish is fit for human consumption, experts examine the product for parasitological fauna of muscle tissues; when liver, fish eggs, or milt are to be used, the parasites are assessed that could localize in these tissues;
- Special attention is devoted to certain safety indicators; inspectors look for the following in shipments of seafood products:
  - Toxic elements,
  - Pesticides,

- Polychlorinated biphenyls,
- Histamines (for the following families: tuna, mackerel, salmon and herring),
- Radionuclides,
- Microbiological indices, and
- Absence of parasites.

SanPiN 2.3.2.1078-01 and its amendments cite the allowable levels of potentially dangerous substances and microorganisms in products, and in some cases specify zero tolerance for certain pathogenic microflora in a product.

In accordance with GOST R 51493-99, frozen fish (code 0303) may be manufactured to contain only the food additives ascorbic acid, sodium ascorbate E 301, or potassium ascorbate E 303, not to exceed 1 gram/kilogram of ascorbic acid.

The food additives indicated in the table below are permitted in manufacturing of frozen fillets:

Name and Code of the Food Additive	Allowable Level in a Food Product
Sodium ortho-phosphate 1 – substituted E339 I, potassium ortho-phosphate 1 – substituted E 340 i, sodium pyrophosphate E 450 iii, potassium pyrophosphate E 450 v, sodium triphosphate 5 – substituted E 451 i, potassium triphosphate 5 – substituted E 451 ii, calcium polyphosphate E 452 iv, sodium polyphosphate E 452 i – individually or in combination	10 g/kg (including not more than 5 g/kg of the phosphate added) recalculated into P <sub>2</sub> O <sub>5</sub>
Sodium alginate	5 g/kg
Sodium ascorbate E 301 or potassium ascorbate E 303	1 g/kg for ascorbic acid

GOST R national standards, referred to above, have been harmonized with international standards for similar products. These standards dedicate special attention to the characteristics of the organoleptic indicators. For instance, in accordance with the GOST R 51494, the requirements for importing frozen fillet from ocean and sea fish (0304) emphasize external appearance, the packing order, cutting, flesh consistency, flesh color, smell after defrosting, taste and smell after cooking, deep dehydration/de-watering (not to exceed 10% from the area of the unit surface or an individual fillet), presence of bones (limiting index), and presence of alien/foreign admixtures (not allowed).

GOST R 51495-99, Frozen squid, technical specifications (code 0307), establishes requirements for the quality of the product relating to the external appearance, cutting, color, and smell (after defrosting), taste and smell (after cooking/boiling), meat consistency (after defrosting and cooking/boiling). It also establishes limitations for deep dehydration and it does not allow alien/foreign admixtures. The net weight of the glazed squid must be indicated without the glazing weight. If the product was glazed with seawater the label should contain an additional annotation, stating, “The product is glazed with sea

water.”

Quality of live fish (code 0301) is evaluated based on organoleptic indices, fatness, and liveliness. The fish should be free of disease.

In accordance with GOST R 51496 - 99, raw, blanched, boiled, and frozen shrimp of certain species are sorted, their shells removed (but preserving the tail fin, clean shrimp meat, and keeping the neck covered with shell); GOST describes in detail the requirements for organoleptic indices, the tolerable level of food additives, including coloring, Ponceau 4R E124. Examiners pay close attention to apparent defects, deep de-hydration, alien admixtures, alien taste and smell, and unnatural color. Other standards regulating the quality of the frozen fish and seafood products focus carefully on the characteristics of the texture, which deteriorates when deep dehydration takes place, which happens in the absence of glazing. Standards cite methodological descriptions of how to determine the weight of glazing and to assess the taste and aroma properties after defrosting and thermal processing.

VPSS establishes rigid control over fish and seafood entering Russia. Starting from September 1, 2009, these products will be shipped to Russia only from facilities that Russian veterinary inspectors have approved. VPSS has already completed inspections of the largest fish and seafood suppliers, such as China, Chile and Norway.

Russian veterinary officials are scheduled to audit U.S. fish and seafood food safety system in August 2009. The Russian experts will inspect a representative number of processing establishments in the U.S. After inspection and approval, VPSS will approve a list of establishments eligible to export fish and seafood products to Russia. However, all U.S. facilities currently trading fish and seafood will not be subject to immediate inspection and may be eligible for inclusion on the list of approved facilities.

### **Live Animals**

Live animals, like other animal-origin products, are subject to state border veterinary supervision. Exports from the United States to Russia is possible only for live animals for which the two countries have agreed on a veterinary health certificate.

Customs processing may begin only after VPSS issues the necessary permission. To clear customs, the shipment is subject to state veterinary supervision. Veterinary certificates issued by the border veterinary point must be exchanged for the veterinary certificates from the supplier's country of origin, and the documents accompanying the shipment with the original stamp of the border veterinary point, stating that “release is allowed,” and bearing the signature and the personal stamp of the veterinary officer of the border veterinary point and the date.

The following shipments must be accompanied by a veterinary certificate, form N1:

- All animals (agricultural, domestic, wild, zoo, sea, commercial fur, circus, laboratory animals,

etc.), and

- All birds (domestic, wild, ornamental, etc.)

Exporters should also take into consideration the following Resolution of the Government of the Russian Federation Number, 1410, The Application of Veterinary Measures on the Import of Live Animals and Products of Animal Origin:

To facilitate Russia's accession to the World Trade Organization, the Government of the Russian Federation decrees:

Prior to adopting the documents envisioned by the Federal legislation "Technical Regulation" (Legal Code of the Russian Federation, 2002, N 52, page 5140; 2005, N 19, page 1752), which constitute the regulations establishing mandatory requirements for veterinary safety with respect to live animals that are classified in commodity positions 0101, 0102, 0103, 0104, 0105, 0106, 0301, 0306, 0307 and 9508 of the Commodity Nomenclature of Foreign Economic Activity, when such commodities are brought into the territory of the Russian Federation, one has to be regulated by the veterinary requirements that are in effect in the Russian Federation that do not contradict the Terrestrial Animal Health Code of the World Organization of Animal Health (OIE).

It is established that in a case when the veterinary requirements that are in force in the Russian Federation contradict the veterinary requirements that are in force in the World Trade Organization, the norms of the Code shall apply, the Code being referred to on the first page of this resolution.

When brood domestic animals are exported to the Russian Federation, traders should take into account: Resolution 244 of April 24, 2007, exempting from value added tax the following commodity line items:

From 0102 Brood cattle

From 0103 Brood swine

From 0104 Brood sheep and goats

This Resolution came into force as of the date of its official publication and covers legal relations arising as of January 1, 2007.

### **Milk and Dairy Products**

The requirements for the import of dairy products are much like the requirements for the majority of animal origin products. However, not all dairy products require a veterinary certificate and import permit. Please consult those specific sections within this report or your importer for further details. More information pertaining to specific tariff lines can also be found at <http://www.tks.ru/db/tnved/tree>.

The definition of "milk" changed in 2008. The Russian President signed a Law on "Technical



Regulations for Milk and Dairy products" on June 14, 2008. The Technical Regulations concern milk and milk products as well as their production, storage, transportation, sale and utilization of milk and milk products. The new term "milk beverage" (referring to milk produced from non-fat dry milk, whole milk powder, condensed milk, or concentrated milk) has created great concern in the dairy sector as dry milk is widely used in the industry. Dairy product producers fear that the term "milk beverage" will reduce consumption and result in lower prices for dry milk. As a result, adoption of this law in practice has been slowly implemented.

Dairy products may not contain melamine. The Russian Chief Medical Officer and the Federal Service for the Protection of Consumer Rights and Human Well-being of the Ministry of Health (Rospotrebnadzor), signed Resolution No. 56 dated October 21, 2008, that bans the use of melamine in dairy products and adds it to the list of monitored products in food items.

## **Grains and Oilseeds**

Grains and oilseeds are subject to phytosanitary inspection and can be imported only after VPSS issues an import quarantine permit. The import permit is issued on the basis of the phytosanitary certificate from the authorized agency of the exporting country. VPSS also may require a document on pesticides and agrochemicals that were used in growing, storing, processing and handling of imported crops. The main procedures and requirements are described in paragraph "General Requirements for Products of Plant Origin" in section VI of this report.

Some grain products require Rospotrebnadzor's sanitary-epidemiological conclusion. For example, this conclusion is required for the grains from gramineous plants, which are used for food, or food products manufacturing, not for kernels, because they are not separated from ears and stalks. Sanitary-epidemiological conclusion is also necessary for importing rapeseed (or canola), both crushed and non-crushed, used for food purposes or for manufacturing food products, and seeds and fruit of other oil-bearing crops, crushed or non-crushed, that are used for food purposes or for manufacturing food products.

VPSS issues certificates of quality for grain and processed grain products for export and import. These certificates may be obtained also in independent commercial agencies accredited by the VPSS. However, none of these independent agencies has been accredited by VPSS so far.

In 2009 VPSS clarified that the quarantine ban on imports of corn planting seeds from the US does not apply to corn imported for processing either for food or feed use.

## **Nuts**

Fresh nuts are the subject to phytosanitary inspection as outlined in section VI of this report. Below is a list of documents necessary to clear the product through customs:

- Import quarantine permission from Rosselhoznadzor
- Rosselhoznadzor Phytosanitary certificate
- Rospotrebnadzor's sanitary-epidemiological conclusion
- Phytosanitary certificate of the of exporters' country
- Quality certificate from the producer
- Contract and transportation documents (Bill of lading for shipments)
- Invoice
- Deal passport

Customs duties, payments, and taxes depend on the type of product and are calculated based on the customs value of the product (i.e., product value plus transportation cost).

### **Fresh Fruit**

Fresh fruits must be accompanied by a sanitary-epidemiological conclusion. These products are subject to phytosanitary inspection. As is the case with nut imports, the Russian Federation only allows fruits to enter the country with permission from VPSS. A product certificate, issued by the appropriate Russian certification establishment, is required for a customs clearance. To obtain a product certificate, the following documents are also necessary:

- Signed contract and transportation documents
- Certificate of origin
- Phytosanitary certificate from the exporter
- Quality certificate
- Importer's license
- Certificate of Conformity

Starting from November 15, 2008, the European fruits and vegetables listed below need to be accompanied by safety certificates issued by several European laboratories before they enter Russia:

grapes, peaches, nectarines, oranges and mandarins coming from Greece;  
 peaches, nectarines, mandarins, grapefruits, pears and oranges from Spain;  
 all products from Latvia;  
 tomatoes, apples, carrots, beetroots and cabbages from the Netherlands;  
 apples, celery, cabbages and plums from Hungary;

grapes from Italy

## **Fresh Vegetables**

The requirements for importing fresh vegetables to the Russian Federation are characteristic for other products of plant origin. Like nuts and fresh fruits, fresh vegetables must be accompanied by a sanitary-epidemiological conclusion. These products are subject to phytosanitary inspection. It is possible to import fresh vegetables only with permission of VPSS.

Imports of potato seeds are no longer subject to a defector ban and do not require a Rospotrebnadzor sanitary-epidemiological statement. However, the product should be registered in the special seed and planting materials registry of the Russia Federation, previously tested and certified by one of the Ministry of Agriculture divisions.

The vegetable imports enjoy 10% VAT which is lower than VAT for other imported product.

## **Frozen or Processed Vegetables**

Products must be accompanied by a sanitary-epidemiological conclusion. For 07013 - leguminous dried, de-shelled, cleared from the seed skin, chipped or non-chipped – products are subject to phytosanitary inspection. It is possible to import these products only with advance permission of VPSS.

## **Typical Errors When Supplying Foodstuffs to Russia**

Listed below are the most common reasons for prohibiting or suspending suppliers' imports of foodstuffs to Russia:

- Absence of the sanitary-epidemiological conclusion for the products (55.4%);
- Absence (non-conformity) of labeling (41.0%);
- Non-conformity with sanitary-hygienic requirements (2.4%); and
- Non-conformity with transportation terms and conditions (1.2%).

Sometimes imports are detained because importers (legal entities, individual entrepreneurs) do not request official information from the producer about the safety of the product, including the use of pesticides. The contracts signed to supply the food products do not spell out the issues relating to labels in the Russian language; and return of potentially dangerous products to the supplier is not covered, either. Other problems include price discrepancies, documentary discrepancies (e.g., wrong health certificate, different products described in bill of lading and health certificate), supplying meat products from uncertified (unapproved) facilities, and failure to pay fees.

Exporters should be prepared for requests for the following documents from importers:

- For food materials of plant origin - information about the pesticides used when growing the plants, fumigation of the premises, storage methods of pest control, etc.;
- For food materials of animal origin – information about the use of pesticides indicating the name of the pesticide and the pesticide expiration date; and
- Documents confirming the quality and safety of products for human consumption.

<sup>[1]</sup> These documents must include a contract between the buyer and the supplier, a consignment layout showing how the transportation vehicle was loaded (e.g., on pallets), and an export declaration showing the value of the consignment.

<sup>[2]</sup> These items are copies of the following documents with the stamp of the applicant.

<sup>[3]</sup> Also called, in Russian, Chief State Sanitary Inspector of the Russian Federation. The Chief State Sanitary Inspector of the Russian Federation is the Head of the Federal Service for Protection of Consumer Rights and Human Well-Being (Rospotrebnadzor).

<sup>[4]</sup> A method used in Russia, whereby information transferred by telephone is documented in writing, so that it may be confirmed later.

<sup>[5]</sup> For details see Post's report RS7081 Products Subject to Border Veterinary Inspection

<http://www.fas.usda.gov/gainfiles/200711/146292933.doc>

<sup>[6]</sup> For details see Post's report RS8019 "New Procedures for Issuing Permits" at

<http://www.fas.usda.gov/gainfiles/200803/146294075.doc>

## **Appendix I. Government Regulatory Agency Contacts:**

Federal Service for Technical Regulation and Metrology (formerly Gosstandart)

Moscow, Leninskiy Prospekt, 9

Tel: 011 7 (495) 236-0300,

Tel: 011 7 (495) 237-5468, fax: 011 7 (495) 236-6231; (495) 237-6032

<http://www.gost.ru/wps/portal/>

Federal Service for Protection of Consumer Rights and Human Well-Being (Rospotrebnadzor)

Moscow, Vadkovskiy per. 18/20

Tel: 011 7 (499) 973-2690, fax. 011 7 (495) 200-0212, 258-4497

Tel: 011 7 (499) 973-2666, 973-1803, 973-2674, fax 011 7 (495) 258-4497

Certification Center Tel: 011 7 (499) 973-1571, 973-1976, 973-2710

<http://www.rospotrebnadzor.ru/>

Russian State Agricultural Research Institute of Control, Standardization, and Certification of Veterinary Substances

Moscow, Zvenigorodskoye Shosse 5

tel. 011 7 (495) 253-1491, 253-1472, 256-0381

Federal Service for Veterinary and Phytosanitary Surveillance  
Orlikov per., 1/11  
107139 Moscow  
Russian Federation  
Tel. 011 7 (499) 975-4347, fax 011 7 (495) 607-5111  
<http://www.fsvps.ru>

### **Certification bodies**

VNIIS – issues certificates of conformity  
All-Russian Scientific-Research Institute for Certification (VNIIS)  
Electricheskiy per. 3  
Moscow  
tel. 011 7 (495) 253-3580, fax 911 7 (495) 253-3360

ROSTEST– all procedures for quality control and safety control  
“Rostest - Moskva”, Russian Center for Test and Certification, GOSSTANDART  
Nakhimovsky prospect, 31  
117418 Moscow  
tel. 011 7 (495) 129-3200, fax 011 7 (495) 124-9966

REA-TEST  
Stremyanniy per., 36  
Moscow  
tel. 011 7 (495) 958-2939

PRODEKOTEST  
Kozhevnickeskaya ul., 1a  
Moscow  
tel. 011 7 (495) 235-7390

### **Appendix II. Other Import Specialist Contacts:**

Russian Federation web sites include:

Ministry of Health and Social Development: <http://www.minzdravsoc.ru/>  
[http://www.government.ru/institutions/ministries/details.html?he\\_id=143](http://www.government.ru/institutions/ministries/details.html?he_id=143)

Ministry of Economic Development: <http://www.economy.gov.ru/wps/portal>

Federal Customs Service of Russia: <http://www.customs.ru/en/>

Ministry of Agriculture: <http://www.mcx.ru/>

Ministry of Industry and Trade: <http://www.minprom.gov.ru/>